

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 to 19 as set forth in Appendix II of this paper are now pending in this case. Claim 2 has been canceled, Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 to 8 and 12 have been amended, and Claims 14 to 19 have been added, as indicated in Appendix I of this paper.

Claim 1 has been amended to read on the subject matter of Claim 2 and Claims 3, 4, 6 to 8 and 12 have been revised accordingly. Additionally, some editorial changes were made to correct typographical errors. The herbicidal compounds "diflufenican" is outside of the scope of applicants' formula (I). New Claim 14 specifies the radicals R_2 in accordance with the particular embodiments recited in Claim 2 as filed. New Claims 15 to 19 relate to methods and granules comprising as a herbicidal compound "diflufenican" and otherwise correspond to Claims 9 to 13. In accordance with applicants' new claims, the solid carrier comprises the particular cyclodextrin which is represented by formula (II). No new matter has been added. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees to Deposit Account No. 11.0345. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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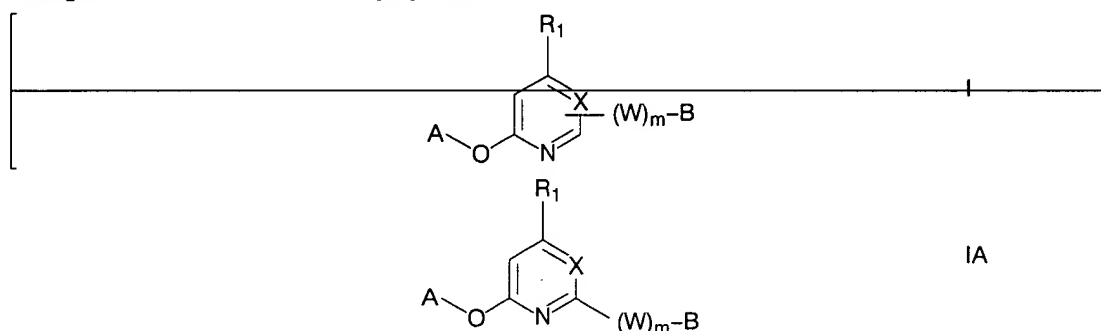
Encl.: THE CHANGES IN THE CLAIMS (Appendix I)
THE AMENDED CLAIMS (Appendix II)
Supplemental IDS

HBK/BAS

A P P E N D I X I:

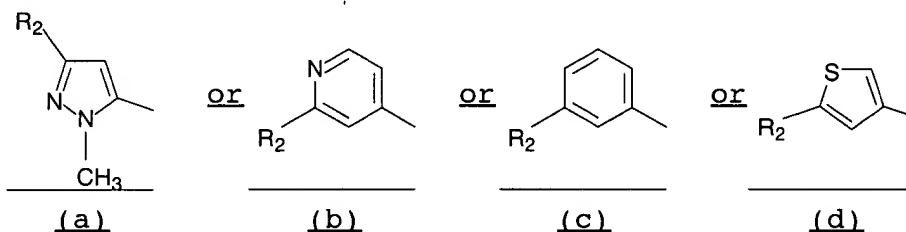
THE CHANGES IN THE CLAIMS (version with markings, showing the changes made):

1. (twice amended) A method of increasing the efficacy of a herbicidal compound of formula [±] IA



wherein

A represents a group of formula a, b, c or d: [and]



wherein R₂ is a halogen atom or a C₁₋₃ haloalkyl or C₁₋₃ haloalkoxy group;

B ~~[each independently represent]~~ represents a phenyl, pyridyl, pyrazolyl or thienyl ring being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, alkyl, haloalkyl or haloalkoxy groups;

R₁ represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl or alkoxy group;

X represents CH or N;

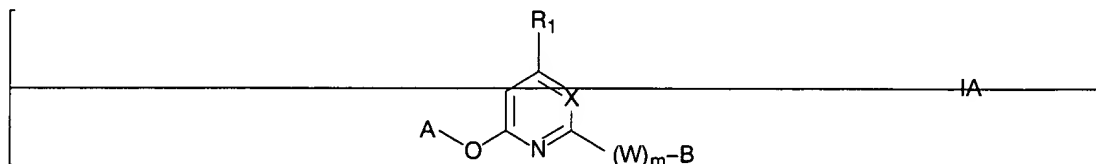
W represents -O-, [-OCH₂-] -OCH₂- or -CONH-, and

m is 0 or 1,

which comprises applying an effective amount of said herbicidal compound directly to the soil in the form of a solid granule or powder which contains said herbicidal compound and at least one inert solid carrier.

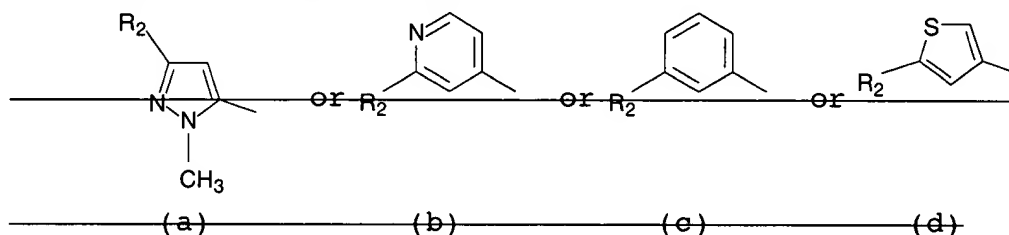
Claim 2 has been canceled.

2. ~~(canceled) The method according to claim 1 wherein said herbicidal compound I has the structural formula IA~~



wherein

~~A represents a group of formula a, b, c or d:~~



~~wherein R₂ is a halogen or a C₁₋₃ haloalkyl or C₁₋₃ haloalkoxy group.~~

3. ~~(twice amended) The method according to claim [2] 1 wherein~~
~~[A and] B [each independently represent] represents~~ a phenyl being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, alkyl, haloalkyl or haloalkoxy groups;
 R₁ represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or an alkyl or alkoxy group;
 X represents CH or N; and
 W represents -CONH-, and
 m is 1.
4. ~~(twice amended) The method according to claim [3] 1 wherein the herbicidal compound IA is [selected from the group consisting of]~~
~~[2',4'-difluoro-2-(α,α,α-trifluoro-m-tolyloxy)-nicotinamide (diflufenican)]~~
 N-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-[3-trifluoromethylphenyl]phenoxy]-2-pyridine carboxamide (picolinafen), ~~[and] or~~
 4-(3-trifluoromethylphenoxy)-2-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-pyrimidin (TTP).
6. ~~(twice amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the solid granule or powder comprises about~~
 (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of a herbicidal compound of formula IA; and

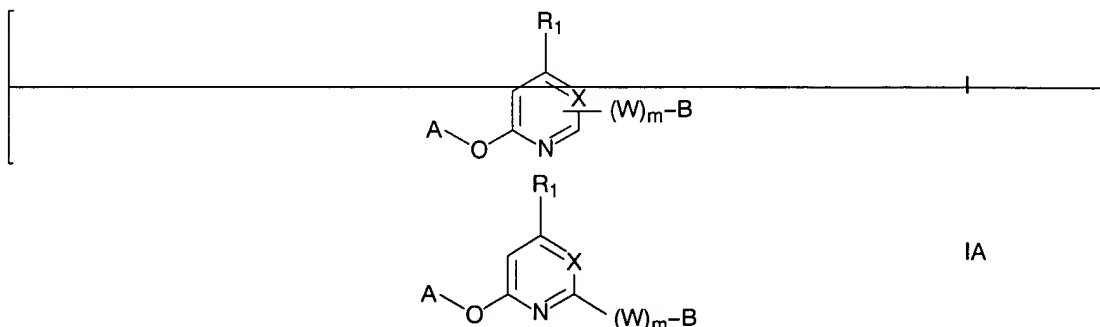
(b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of at least one inert solid carrier, and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

7. (twice amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula IA is admixed with a second active compound which is selected from the group consisting of

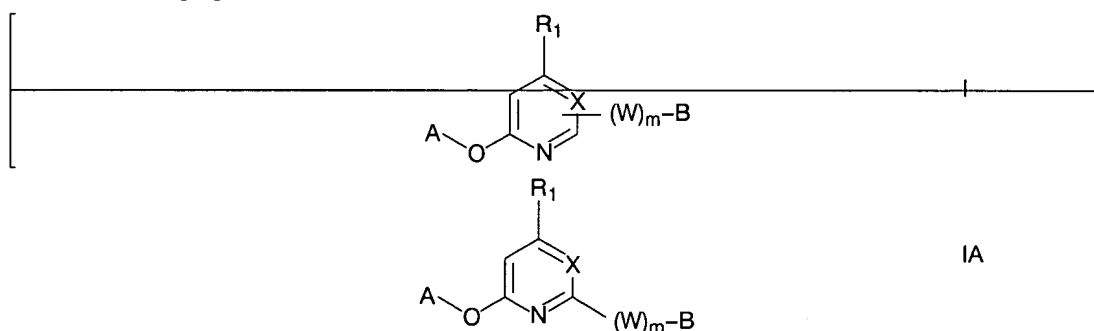
acifluorfen, aclonifen, alachlor, alloxymid, ametryn, amitrole, anilazine, anilofos, asulam, atrazine, azinphos-methyl, benazolin, benfluralin, benfuresate, bensulide, bentazone, benzofenap, bifenox, bromacil, brombutide, bromoxynil, butachlor, butamifos, butenachlor, butylate, carfentrazone-ethyl, chloramben, chlorbromuron, chlorbufam, chlorimuron, chlornitrofen, chlortoluron, chlorthiamid, cinmethylin, clomoxone, clopyralid, cyanazine, cycloate, 2,4-D, diamuron, desmetryn, dicamba, dichlobenil, dichloroprop-P, diclofop-methyl, dimefuron, dimepiperate, dimethachlor, demethatryn, dimethenamid, dinitramine, dinotrerb, dithiopyr, es-cocarb, ethafluralin, ethofumesate, ethoxyfen-ethyl, fenoxaprop, fenuron, flamprop-M-isopropyl, flamprop-M-methyl, fluazifop, fluchloralin, flufenacet, flumioxazin, flumeturon, fluoroglycofen, flupoxam, fluridone, flurochloridone, flurprimidol, flurtamone, fluthiacet-methyl, fomesafen, glufosinate, haloxyfop, ioxynil, isoxaflutole, lactofen, linuron, mecoprop, mecoprop-P, mefenacet, metazachlor, metobenzuron, metobromuron, metolachlor, metoxuron, monolinuron, naproanilide, napropamide, naptalam, norflurazon, orbencarb, oxadiazon, oxyfluorfen, pebulate, pendimethalin, picloram, pretilachlor, prodiamine, prometon, prometryn, propachlor, propanil, propisochlor, propyzamide, prosulfo-carb, pyrazoxyfen, pyributicarb, siduron, tebuthiuron, terbacil, terbumeton, terbuthylazine, terbutryn, thiazopyr, thiobencarb, thiocarbazil, triallate, triclopyr and trifluralin.

8. (twice amended) A solid granule which comprises about

(a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of at least one herbicidal compound of formula IA [+]



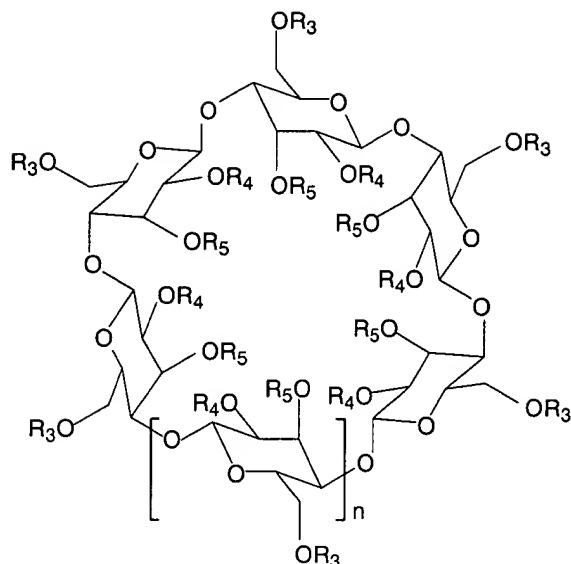
- wherein A, B, R₁, X, W and m are defined as in claim 1; and
- (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier selected from the group consisting of granular gypsum, kaolin or bentonite, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylacetate, cyclodextrin, sugar and mixtures or copolymers thereof, and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.
12. (twice amended) A method for the control of undesired weeds at a locus which comprises treating said locus with a solid granule which consists essentially of
- (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of at least one herbicidal compound of formula IA[+]



- wherein A, B, R₁, X, W and m are defined as in claim 1; and
- (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier selected from the group consisting of granular gypsum, kaolin or bentonite, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylacetate, cyclodextrin, sugar and mixtures or copolymers thereof, and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

New Claims 14 to 19 have been added.

14. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein R² is a chlorine atom, or a trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy group.
15. (new) A solid granule which consists essentially of
- (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of at least one herbicidal compound which is 2',4'-difluoro-2-(α,α,α -trifluoro-m-tolyloxy)-nicotinamide (diflufenican); and
- (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier comprising a cyclodextrin of formula II



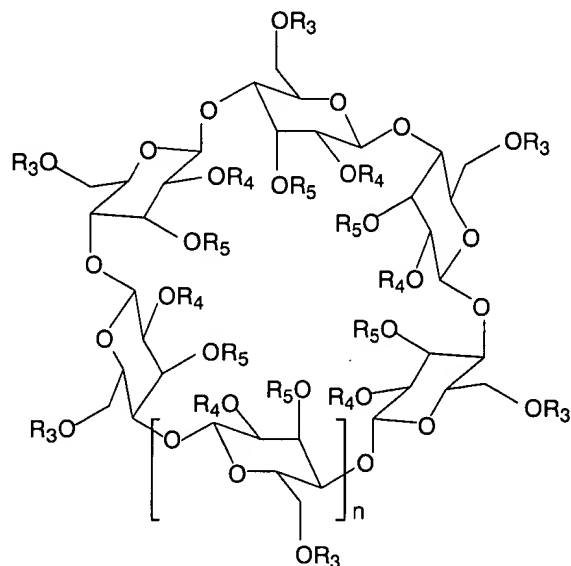
wherein

R_3 , R_4 and R_5 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkanoyl or a C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl group; and

n is 1, 2 or 3;

and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

16. (new) The solid granule according to claim 15, wherein R_3 , R_4 and R_5 each represent a hydrogen atom and n is 2.
17. (new) The solid granule according to claim 15, which comprises
 - (b1) 50 to 250 g/kg of one or more cyclodextrin of formula II; and
 - (b2) 650 to 949.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier selected from the group consisting of granular gypsum, kaolin or bentonite, silica, inorganic salts, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinylacetate, sugar and mixtures or copolymers thereof, and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.
18. (new) A method for the control of undesired weeds at a locus which comprises treating said locus with a solid granule which consists essentially of
 - (a) 0.1 to 100 g/kg of at least one herbicidal compound which is 2',4'-difluoro-2-(α,α,α -trifluoro-m-tolyloxy)-nicotinamide (diflufenican); and
 - (b) 900 to 999.9 g/kg of one or more solid carrier comprising a cyclodextrin of formula II



wherein

R_3 , R_4 and R_5 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkanoyl or a C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl group; and

n is 1, 2 or 3;

and optionally at least one solid auxiliary.

19. (new) The method according to claim 18 wherein said weeds are *Galium spp.* or *Alopecurus spp.*